28th January 1961]

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : பட்ஜெட்டின்போது இதைப்பற்றி அங்கத்தினர்கள் அபிப்பிராயம் கூறினால் சர்க்கார் பரிசீலனை செய்யும்.

*Rubber*

* 205 *Q.*—SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Central Government have fixed any price for rubber;

(*b*) the price fixed per pound;

(*c*) whether our Government have made any protest against this fixation of price; and

(*d*) whether this fixation of price has affected the small rubber producers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The price fixed for R.M.A. I grade is Rs. 149.50 per 100 lb. or Rs. 164·80 per 50 kilograms, f.o.b. Cochin exclusive of the cess. Inclusive of the cess the price will remain at Rs. 155.75.

(*c*) No, Sir.

(*d*) The Tariff Commission has gone into the request of producers for enhancing the price of rubber. It has recommended the fixation of the fair price of raw rubber R.M.A. I grade at Rs. 146 per 100 lb . exclusive of sales tax and cess. The price fixed by the Government of India is higher than the price considered fair by the Tariff Commission. Hence the Government consider that the industry cannot have any reasonable cause for complaint.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : Sir, may I know whether the Central Government, before fixing the price of rubber, have consulted the State Government?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No, Sir.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : May I know whether there is some sort of competition between the price of rubber produced in this country and the price of rubber imported into our country from foreign countries?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, this is a matter coming under the purview of the Central Government and representations and interpellations, if any, may be put to the Central Government.

*Pudukkottai Textiles*

* 206 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any complaint from the Tiruchirappalli District Textile Workers' Union regarding the closure of the Pudukkottai Textiles, Namanasamudram; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?